



2018

Well Permits

A well permit is required on all new and replacement wells that pump over 50 gallons per minute. The permits must be submitted and approved by District Staff before drilling can commence. Normally, this process takes 2-3 days. That said, the District has authority to hold a permit for 30 days before final approval or rejection is issued.

What fees are required to attain a permit?

A non-refundable \$50.00 permit fee is required with each Well Drilling Permit.

Can permits be amended once they are approved?

Permits can be amended once they are approved. Amendments to location, ownership, pumping rate, delivery system, acres watered and well driller can be changed at no additional charge.

How do I know if my permit has been approved?

Once a permit is approved by District Staff copies of the approved permit are mailed to you, the owner of the permit, the well driller, the County Assessor, County Zoning and the State of Nebraska's Department of Natural Resources. If you do not receive a copy of the approved permit within a week or two of submittal please contact the NRD office.

Why do you send copies of the approved permit to so many people?

Each of the above entities will need the permit number issued by the District.

Once I have an approved permit is my well registered by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources?

No, the State of Nebraska Department of Natural Resources has a separate form required for registration of a well. The form will be submitted to the Department by the Well Driller upon completion of the well.

Is a Water Flow Meter required on my new well?

Yes, wells permitted after March of 2004 are required to have a functioning flow meter installed. The permit gives permission for District Staff to enter the property to check that an approved flow meter is correctly installed on the well upon completion before pumping begins. If you have questions about the approved flow meter list or installation specifications please contact the District Office.



Once approved how long do I have to complete my well?

A permit is good for 1 year from the date of approval.

Who can apply for a Well Drilling Permit?

Since the well will stay with the property, the landowner is the only person eligible to apply for the permit. We prefer that the applicant match the Deed at the Assessor's Office.

Are there spacing requirements for a new or replacement well?

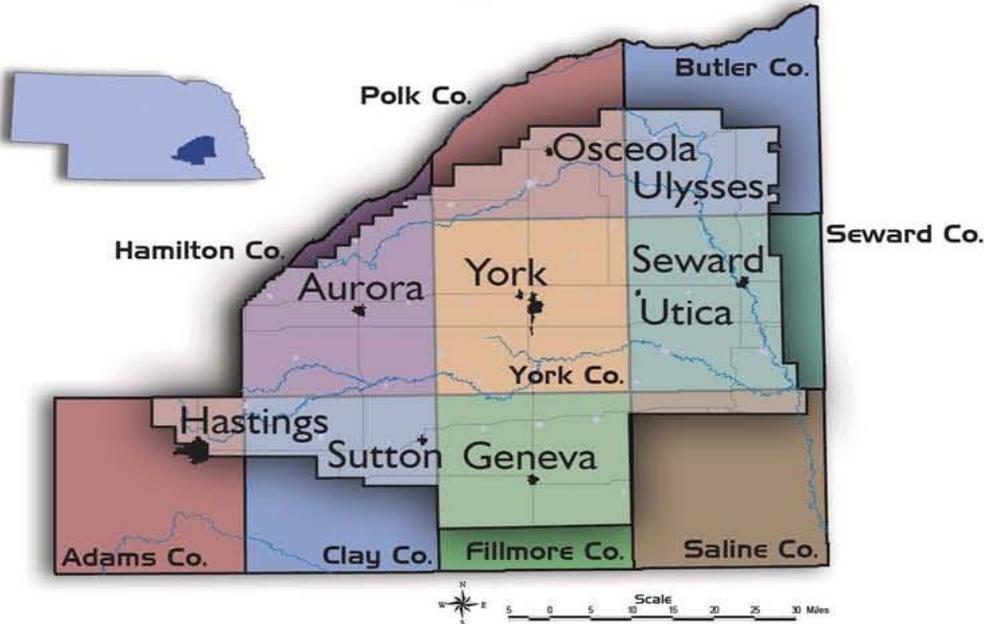
A permit is reviewed for well spacing. A well must be 1,000 ft away from a well of different ownership that pumps over 50 gpm. This normally does not include domestic wells since they pump less than 50 gpm.

Does the approved permit double as my certification paperwork?

No, District Staff will contact you upon completion of the well to certify the irrigated acres, and collect the operator information.



Know Your NRD: District FACTS



UPPER BIG BLUE NRD

Groundwater irrigated acres: 1.2 million
2017 irrigation water use averaged
7.6 acre inches.

Free water tests (1997-2017):
Nitrate tests: 8,875
Bacteria tests: 1,072

Irrigation flowmeters District-wide:
12,206 installed

Wellhead Protection Areas established:
27 communities

Flood control dams built (1972-2017):
45 structures

Recreation areas: 5 sites/ 640 acres of
water and land managed.

Forestry (1975-2017): 1,799,588 trees sold.

Nebraska's NRDs

- Protects lives through flood protection
- Leaders in groundwater management
- Use taxpayer dollars efficiently

Formed in 1972, Nebraska's Natural Resources Districts are local government entities with broad responsibilities to protect our natural resources.

NRDs help Nebraskans respond to natural resource challenges with local control and local solutions. Major Nebraska river basins form the boundaries of the 23 NRDs, each of which is governed by locally elected boards of directors. The Upper Big Blue NRD is governed by a 17-member board of directors. These directors are elected by registered voters within the District. The board sets policy for the District and works closely with the staff through a committee system to carry out the District's goals.

Statewide, NRDs are largely funded by property taxes and make efficient use of those tax dollars; typically a Natural Resources District uses only 1% to 2% of all property taxes collected in a county.

For example, in the Upper Big Blue NRD on a \$100,000 home this would equate to about \$30 of property tax per year; A small investment for peace of mind knowing that your NRD is "Water Conscious."

**Protecting Lives
Protecting Property
Protecting the Future**

Concerned about your natural resources?...So are we!
Find out more about
Nebraska's NRDs at
www.nrdnet.org



**Who is monitoring the safety of our drinking water?
Dan Leininger is...**

The Domestic Well Testing Program keeps rural residents of the Upper Big Blue NRD apprised of the quality of their drinking

water in regard to nitrate levels. Federal regulations state that nitrate-nitrogen concentrations in drinking water greater than 10 parts per million (ppm) are potentially hazardous to high-risk individuals such as infants and the elderly.

In towns, the city government or water supplier is required to annually inform residents of their water quality. Each year, the NRD tests nitrate levels in 250+ domestic wells.

**Who ensures that my grandchildren will have enough water in the future?
Marie Krausnick does...**

The purpose for our regulations is to manage groundwater in times of shortage. This will ensure that we can sustain our long-term water supply for future generations and to avoid conflicts between users. Over 500 observation wells are measured in the spring of each year, allowing the water table to rebound from the previous irrigation season.

Reporting and allocation triggers have been proactively put in place should the groundwater levels fall below a certain point.

